

GENERAL SCIENCE

Cleveland A. A. A. S. Meetings To Summarize Science Progress

More Than 1,000 Papers Will Present Recent Advances in All Science Fields Before American Association

MORE than five thousand scientists from all sections of the United States and Canada will attend meetings of over fifty scientific organizations to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, New Year's week. More than a thousand papers will be read in this year's largest meeting and millions of words will be uttered by the scientists in announcing their new researches.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science is the nucleus for the annual meetings. Joining with this organization are specialized societies covering all fields of science, from anthropology to zoology.

Dr. Robert A. Millikan, Nobel prizeman in physics, will deliver the retiring presidential address of the American Association on "Atomic Disintegration and Atomic Synthesis."

A prize of \$1,000 for a notable contribution to science will be awarded to one out of the many papers presented at the meeting.

The future of man will be predicted by biologists and anthropologists. Mathematicians will give thought to economic cycles and crises as well as their theoretical studies. The latest battles in man's war upon the insects will be retold and new campaigns planned. How better plants and animals can be secured will be discussed by biologists. Engineers will describe telephones, metals, telescopes and water problems.

Economic and sociological societies will hold annual meetings coincidentally with the biological and physical science groups. The American Statistical Association, the American Political Science Association, the American Sociological Society, and the American Economic Association will bring many sociologists to Cleveland.

Western Reserve University and the Case School of Applied Science will be hosts to the visiting scientists.

In addition to the meetings at Cleveland, a number of other scientific groups will assemble at this season.

The scientists, who study the earth layers and fossils which tell the history

of this globe's past, will hold meetings at the University of Toronto, December 29 to 31.

Psychologists, archaeologists and philologists will concentrate at the State University of Iowa, Iowa City, beginning December 29, attracted by national meetings of their societies.

Current battles against germs and recent enslavements of bacteria to do useful work will be revealed at the meeting of the Society of American Bacteriologists in Cambridge, Mass., December 29 to 31.

Astronomers will gather at Yale University, New Haven, Conn., on New Year's Day for a three-day session of the American Astronomical Society.

The future of the forests of the country will be discussed when the Society of American Foresters meets in Washington for three days beginning December 29.

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ARCHAEOLOGY-ARCHITECTURE

Architectural Link Found in Egypt

OLD, old stone buildings, found recently at Sakkara, in Egypt, represent an important missing link in the

world's architectural history, is the view of the French architect, J. P. Lauer, reported to the *Gazette des Beaux Arts*.

The buildings are pronounced some of the very first important experiments in dressed stone architecture. They were funerary temples built close by the first of the great stone pyramids ever to be erected for an Egyptian pharaoh.

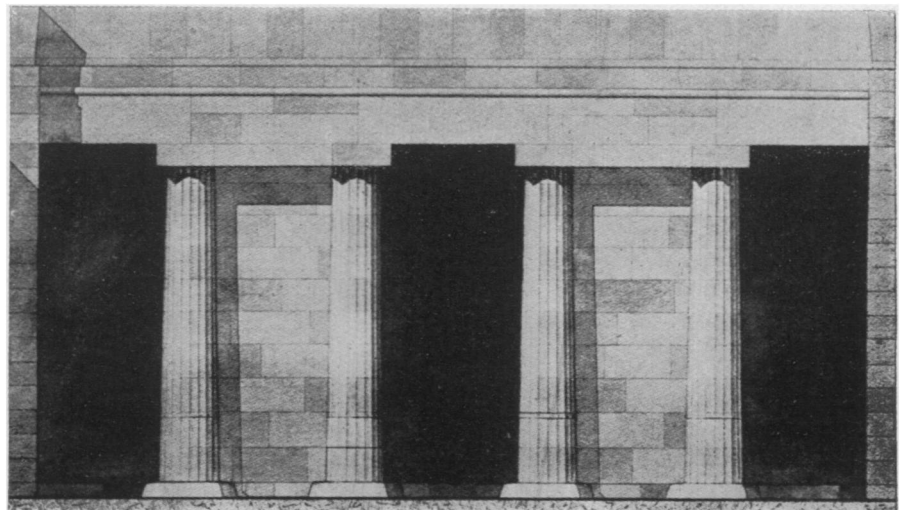
These temples have been buried in the sand until the first trace of them was discovered six years ago. They have now been unearthed in the course of several years' excavations by C. M. Firth, British archaeologist, in the Department of Antiquities of Egypt.

The buildings are recognized as an entirely new architecture from Egypt. Fluted columns strikingly like the Doric columns of Greece are one feature of this oldest stone architecture. These Egyptian columns were designed more than two thousand years before the Greeks used such columns in their temples.

From his studies of the architecture, M. Lauer declares that it is so delicate and graceful that it would have only imperfectly fitted the requirements of stone construction. That explains why this ancient style has been lost and forgotten. It appears that the first Egyptian architect who turned to the use of stone tried out the new building material in the style that was successful when wood and brick and reeds were used. These plans were soon modified into the more massive style that we know today as characteristic Egyptian stone architecture.

The temples are attributed to the world's oldest architect whose name is known today: that is, the Egyptian Imhotep.

Science News Letter, December 27, 1930



Gazette des Beaux Arts

DORIC COLUMNS 2000 YEARS OLDER THAN GREECE